

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 242250

FOLLOWING REPEAT LA PAZ 6997 ACTION SECSTATE 25 OCTOBER.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 6997

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, BL

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE ON NARCOTICS CONTROL

REF: STATE 233134

TO THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR STEDMAN

1. I AM PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM IN BOLIVIA IS SHOWING SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN THREE KEY AREAS. THESE ARE: AN INCREASING AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEMS HERE OF HOW DRUG ABUSE IS AFFECTING BOLIVIANS; GROWING PRESSURE ON THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM TO APPLY THE LAWS RIGOROUSLY AGAINST TRAFFICKERS IN NARCOTICS; IMPROVED ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES TO COORDINATE THE EFFORTS OF THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES IN A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM TO CURB THE SUPPLY AND EXPORT OF COCAINE

2. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CAN BE HELPFUL IN PROMOTING GREATER AND MORE EFFECTIVE COOPERATION AMONG COUNTRIES IN THE HEMISPHERE IN
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THE NARCOTICS EFFORT BY FINANCING SYMPOSIA AND OTHER FORMS OF

CONSULTATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF HIGH LEVEL POLICY MAKERS AND NARCOTICS DIRECTORS IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES. WE MIGHT ALSO FOCUS MORE ATTENTION ON THE PROBLEM AND ELICIT MORE REGIONAL COOPERATION IF WE WERE TO PLACE THIS TOPIC ON THE AGENDA FOR THE MFM IN BUENOS AIRES NEXT MARCH.

3. ANOTHER MEANS OF FOCUSING ATTENTION AND INTEREST IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES WOULD BE TO PUBLISH A QUARTERLY STATISTICAL SUMMARY SHOWING THE MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF EACH COUNTRY IN THE NARCOTICS EFFORT. PERHAPS THESE COULD BE PRESENTED OFFICIALLY AT OAS ASSEMBLY MEETINGS OR AT OTHER INTER-AMERICAN FORUMS.

4. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST AND SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ASPECTS OF NARCOTICS PROGRAM, BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL PROPOSE TO APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES THAT KEY MEMBERS BE SENT ON FIELD TRIP TO ASSESS SITUATION IN PRODUCER COUNTRIES AT FIRST HAND. THIS MIGHT PROVE TO BE BEST MEANS OF ASSURING CONGRESSIONAL UNDERSTANDING OF ANY PROPOSALS S/NM MAY IN FUTURE PROPOSE CONCERNING CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS, WHICH IN MY VIEW ARE ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS IN ANY SUCCESSFUL, LONGER TERM. NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM.

5. I PARTICULARLY WELCOME YOUR INVITATION TO INCLUDE SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTIONS BY ANY AGENCY THAT I BELIEVE WOULD RESULT IN A MORE IMAGINATIVE AND EFFECTIVE CONDUCT OF THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM. I HAVE ENDEAVORED TO USE RESTRAINT, PRUDENCE AND COMMON SENSE IN PROPOSING NEW DEPARTURES IN THE NARCOTICS EFFORT HERE. AND HAVE HAD APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE FOR ALMOST 6 MONTHS TO PROCEED WITH A PILOT PROJECT IN COCA CROP SUBSTITUTION. AFTER FULFILLING A NUMBER OF REQUIREMENTS LEVIED ON US BY WASHINGTON BEFORE WE WERE ABLE TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL FOR REVIEW, I REQUESTED \$305,000 FOR AN EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT, CONSISTING OF TWO U.S. TECHNICIANS SOME EQUIPMENT AND \$120,000 FOR CREDIT FOR COOPERATING FARMERS. I WAS APPALLED TO RECEIVE STATE 232587 ON OCT 24 REPORTING THAT ALTHOUGH THE PILOT PROJECT HAD BEEN APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE, WE ARE NOW REQUIRED TO SUBMIT FOR CONSIDERATION A "COMPLETE PROJECT PROPOSAL" (PROP), USING STANDARD AID FORMAT. OUR PREVIOUS SUBMISSION IS JUDGED TO BE ONLY A "PRELIMINARY PROJECT PROPOSAL" (PPP). THE KEY SENTENCES IN THE DEPARTMENT'S MESSAGE

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(STATE 232587) ARE THE FOLLOWING: "THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS STEM FROM THE FACT THAT AID HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS THE AGENCY THROUGH WHICH S/NM FUNDS WILL FLOW TO THE FIELD. THEREFORE, IN THIS AS IN MOST CASES, STANDARD AID PROCEDURES SHOULD BE FOLLOWED PRIOR TO AND DURING DISBURSEMENT OF SUCH FUNDS."

6. MR SECRETARY, WE NEED MORE SPEED AND FLEXIBILITY IN THE MANAGEMENT OF DOCUMENTATION IF WE ARE TO MOVE AGGRESSIVELY ON

NEW AND IMAGINATIVE FRONTS. IN THAT REGARD, I HOPE THAT OUR
COCA CROP PROJECT CAN BE RECONSIDERED AND APPROVAL
GIVEN TO US TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GOB.
STEDMAN
UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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